HOUSE BILL 1057

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Mosbrucker, Orwall, Barkis, Stanford, Valdez, and Leavitt

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AN ACT Relating to school bus safety; amending RCW 28A.160.010, 28A.160.205, 46.37.510, and 46.63.180; reenacting and amending RCW 343.84.092; adding a new section to chapter 46.37 RCW; adding a new 4 section to chapter 46.68 RCW; and providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 46.37 7 RCW to read as follows:

Beginning September 1, 2020, every school bus must, in addition 8 to any other equipment required under this chapter, be equipped with 9 an automated school bus safety camera. For purposes of this section, 10 11 "automated school bus safety camera" means a device that is affixed 12 to a school bus that is synchronized to automatically record one or 13 more sequenced photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images of 14 the rear of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is detected for an 15 infraction identified in RCW 46.61.370(1).

16 Sec. 2. RCW 28A.160.010 and 1990 c 33 s 132 are each amended to 17 read as follows:

18 <u>(1)</u> The operation of each local school district's student 19 transportation program is declared to be the responsibility of the 20 respective board of directors, and each board of directors shall determine such matters as which individual students shall be transported and what routes shall be most efficiently utilized. State moneys allocated to local districts for student transportation shall be spent only for student transportation activities, but need not be spent by the local district in the same manner as calculated and allocated by the state.

7 (2)(a) A school district is authorized to provide for the 8 transportation of students enrolled in the school or schools of the 9 district both in the case of students who reside within the 10 boundaries of the district and of students who reside outside the 11 boundaries of the district.

12 (b) (i) School districts shall require passengers in school buses 13 equipped with seat belts to wear the belts, in a properly adjusted 14 manner, whenever the school bus is in motion.

15 (ii) School districts, school district employees, school district 16 volunteers, educational service districts, educational service 17 district employees, and commercial chartered bus services hired by a 18 district to provide for the transportation of students, including 19 employees of these providers, shall be held harmless from and not 20 liable for any criminal or civil liability arising under the 21 provisions of this subsection (2) (b).

22 <u>(3)</u> When children are transported from one school district to 23 another the board of directors of the respective districts may enter 24 into a written contract providing for a division of the cost of such 25 transportation between the districts.

26 (4) School districts may use school buses and drivers hired by 27 the district or commercial chartered bus service for the transportation of school children and the school employees necessary 28 29 for their supervision to and from any school activities within or without the school district during or after school hours and whether 30 31 or not a required school activity, so long as the school board has 32 officially designated it as a school activity. For any extra-33 curricular uses, the school board shall charge an amount sufficient to reimburse the district for its cost. 34

35 (5) In addition to the right to contract for the use of buses 36 provided in RCW 28A.160.080 and 28A.160.090, any school district may 37 contract to furnish the use of school buses of that district to other 38 users who are engaged in conducting an educational or recreational 39 program supported wholly or in part by tax funds or programs for 40 elderly persons at times when those buses are not needed by that

1 district and under such terms as will fully reimburse such school district for all costs related or incident thereto: PROVIDED, 2 HOWEVER, That no such use of school district buses shall be permitted 3 except where other public or private transportation certificated or 4 licensed by the Washington utilities and transportation commission is 5 6 not reasonably available to the user: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no user shall be required to accept any charter bus for services which the 7 user believes might place the health or safety of the children or 8 9 elderly persons in jeopardy.

10 <u>(6)</u> Whenever any persons are transported by the school district 11 in its own motor vehicles and by its own employees, the board may 12 provide insurance to protect the district against loss, whether by 13 reason of theft, fire or property damage to the motor vehicle or by 14 reason of liability of the district to persons from the operation of 15 such motor vehicle.

16 <u>(7)</u> The board may provide insurance by contract purchase for 17 payment of hospital and medical expenses for the benefit of persons 18 injured while they are on, getting on, or getting off any vehicles 19 enumerated herein without respect to any fault or liability on the 20 part of the school district or operator. This insurance may be 21 provided without cost to the persons notwithstanding the provisions 22 of RCW 28A.400.350.

23 (8) If the transportation of children or elderly persons is 24 arranged for by contract of the district with some person, the board 25 may require such contractor to procure such insurance as the board 26 deems advisable.

27 Sec. 3. RCW 28A.160.205 and 2007 c 348 s 101 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

(1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall 29 30 implement a school bus replacement incentive program. As part of the 31 program, the office shall fund up to ten percent of the cost of a new ((2007 or later model year school bus that meets the 2007 federal 32 motor vehicle emission control standards and is purchased by a school 33 district by no later than June 30, 2009)) school bus, provided that 34 the new bus is replacing a 1994 or older school bus or the oldest bus 35 in the school district's fleet. Replacement of the oldest buses must 36 be given highest priority. Such incentive funds received under this 37 38 subsection must be deposited into the school district's 39 transportation vehicle fund established in RCW 28A.160.130.

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1 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall ensure that buses being replaced through this program are surplused 2 under RCW 28A.335.180. As part of the surplus process, school 3 districts must provide written documentation to the office of the 4 superintendent of public instruction demonstrating that buses being 5 6 replaced are scrapped and not purchased for road use. The 7 documentation must include bus make, model, year, vehicle identification number, engine make, engine serial number, and salvage 8 yard receipts; and must demonstrate that the engine and body of the 9 bus being replaced has been rendered unusable. 10

11 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction may 12 adopt any rules necessary for the implementation of chapter 348, Laws 13 of 2007 <u>and this act</u>.

14 Sec. 4. RCW 46.37.510 and 1987 c 330 s 729 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

16 (1) No person may sell any automobile manufactured or assembled 17 after January 1, 1964, nor may any owner cause such vehicle to be 18 registered thereafter under the provisions of chapter 46.12 RCW unless such motor car or automobile is equipped with automobile seat 19 20 belts installed for use on the front seats thereof which are of a 21 type and installed in a manner conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol. Where registration is for transfer from an out-of-state 22 license, the applicant shall be informed of this section by the 23 24 issuing agent and has thirty days to comply. The state patrol shall adopt and enforce standards as to what constitutes adequate and safe 25 seat belts and for the fastening and installation of them. Such 26 27 standards shall not be below those specified as minimum requirements by the Society of Automotive Engineers on June 13, 1963. 28

(2) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after January
 1, 1965, shall be equipped with at least two lap-type safety belt
 assemblies for use in the front seating positions.

32 (3) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after January 33 1, 1968, shall be equipped with a lap-type safety belt assembly for 34 each permanent passenger seating position. This requirement shall not 35 apply to police vehicles.

36 (4) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after January
 37 1, 1968, shall be equipped with at least two shoulder harness-type
 38 safety belt assemblies for use in the front seating positions.

1 (5) Every school bus manufactured or assembled after September 1, 2 2020, shall be equipped with a shoulder harness-type safety belt 3 assembly for each passenger position. The superintendent of public 4 instruction shall include specifications for the belt assembly in the 5 competitive quote process required under RCW 28A.160.195.

6 <u>(6)</u> The state patrol shall excuse specified types of motor 7 vehicles or seating positions within any motor vehicle from the 8 requirements imposed by subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section 9 when compliance would be impractical.

10 ((((6))) (7) No person may distribute, have for sale, offer for 11 sale, or sell any safety belt or shoulder harness for use in motor 12 vehicles unless it meets current minimum standards and specifications 13 conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol or the United States 14 department of transportation.

15 Sec. 5. RCW 46.63.180 and 2013 c 306 s 716 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

17 (1) <u>By September 1, 2020, s</u>chool districts ((may)) <u>must</u> install 18 and operate automated school bus safety cameras as defined in section 1 of this act on school buses to be used for the detection of 19 20 violations of RCW 46.61.370(1) ((if the use of the cameras is approved by a vote of the school district board of directors)). 21 22 School districts are not required to take school buses out of service if the ((buses are not equipped with)) automated school bus safety 23 24 cameras ((or functional automated safety cameras)) are nonfunctional; however, each school district must ensure that the nonfunctional 25 camera is returned to functioning condition as soon as practicable. 26 27 Further, school districts shall be held harmless from and not liable for any criminal or civil liability arising under the provisions of 28 this section. 29

30 (a) Automated school bus safety cameras may only take pictures of 31 the vehicle and vehicle license plate and only while an infraction is 32 occurring. The picture must not reveal the face of the driver or of 33 passengers in the vehicle.

(b) A notice of infraction must be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle within fourteen days of the violation, or to the renter of a vehicle within fourteen days of establishing the renter's name and address under subsection (2)(a)(i) of this section. The law enforcement officer issuing the notice of infraction shall include a certificate or facsimile of the notice, based upon inspection of

photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images produced by an 1 automated school bus safety camera, stating the facts supporting the 2 notice of infraction. This certificate or facsimile is prima facie 3 evidence of the facts contained in it and is admissible in a 4 proceeding charging a violation under this chapter. The photographs, 5 6 microphotographs, or electronic images evidencing the violation must available for inspection and admission into evidence in a 7 be proceeding to adjudicate the liability for the infraction. A person 8 receiving a notice of infraction based on evidence detected by an 9 10 automated school bus safety camera may respond to the notice by mail.

11 (c) The registered owner of a vehicle is responsible for an 12 infraction under RCW 46.63.030(1)(e) unless the registered owner 13 overcomes the presumption in RCW 46.63.075, or, in the case of a 14 rental car business, satisfies the conditions under subsection (2) of 15 this section. If appropriate under the circumstances, a renter 16 identified under subsection (2)(a)(i) of this section is responsible 17 for an infraction.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, 18 19 microphotographs, or electronic images prepared under this section are for the exclusive use of law enforcement in the discharge of 20 21 duties under this section and are not open to the public and may not 22 be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the 23 action or proceeding relates to a violation under this section. No photograph, microphotograph, or electronic image may be used for any 24 25 purpose other than enforcement of violations under this section nor 26 retained longer than necessary to enforce this section.

27 (e) ((If)) <u>When</u> a school district installs and operates an 28 automated school bus safety camera under this section, the compensation paid to the manufacturer or vendor of the equipment used 29 must be based only upon the value of the equipment and services 30 31 provided or rendered in support of the system, and may not be based 32 upon a portion of the fine or civil penalty imposed or the revenue 33 generated by the equipment. Further, any repair, replacement, or administrative work costs related to installing or 34 repairing automated school bus safety cameras must be solely paid for by the 35 manufacturer or vendor of the cameras. ((Before entering)) When a 36 school district enters into a contract with the manufacturer or 37 vendor of the equipment used under this subsection (1)(e), the school 38 39 district must follow the competitive bid process as outlined in RCW 40 28A.335.190(1).

1 (f) Except as provided otherwise in this subsection (1)(f) and subsections (3) and (4) of this section, any revenue collected from 2 infractions detected through the use of automated school bus safety 3 cameras, less the administration and operating costs of the cameras, 4 must be remitted to school districts for school zone safety projects 5 6 as determined by the school district using the automated school bus safety cameras. The administration and operating costs of the cameras 7 includes infraction enforcement and processing costs that 8 are incurred by local law enforcement or local courts. During the 9 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, the infraction revenue may also be used 10 11 for school bus safety projects by those school districts eligible to 12 apply for funding from the school zone safety account appropriation in section 201, chapter 306, Laws of 2013. 13

(2) (a) If the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, the law enforcement agency shall, before a notice of infraction is issued under this section, provide a written notice to the rental car business that a notice of infraction may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within eighteen days of receiving the written notice, provide to the issuing agency by return mail:

(i) A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the infraction occurred;

(ii) A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time the infraction occurred because the vehicle was stolen at the time of the infraction. A statement provided under this subsection (2)(a)(ii) must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft; or

30 (iii) In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car 31 business may pay the applicable penalty.

32 (b) Timely mailing of a statement under this subsection to the 33 issuing law enforcement agency relieves a rental car business of any 34 liability under this chapter for the notice of infraction.

(3) ((For purposes of this section, "automated school bus safety camera" means a device that is affixed to a school bus that is synchronized to automatically record one or more sequenced photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images of the rear of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is detected for an infraction identified in RCW 46.61.370(1).) Any school district that is under a 1 safety camera system contract before the effective date of this 2 section must continue to receive funds from use of the safety camera 3 systems that the school district has installed and may transfer the 4 district's share of the funds to the district's transportation 5 vehicle fund established under RCW 28A.160.130 in addition to using 6 the funds for school zone safety projects.

7 (4) For any school district that installs automated school bus safety cameras on or after the effective date of this section, any 8 revenue collected from infractions detected through the use of 9 10 automated school bus safety cameras, less the administration and operating costs of the cameras, must be distributed as follows: (a) 11 12 One-third to the school bus safety account created in section 6 of this act; (b) one-third to the law enforcement agency issuing the 13 infraction; and (c) one-third to the court processing the infraction. 14

15 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 46.68
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 The school bus safety account is created in the state treasury. 18 All receipts from RCW 46.63.180(4)(a) must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. 19 20 Between the effective date of this section and July 31, 2024: The first ten million dollars in expenditures from the account for each 21 22 year must be transferred to the general fund to pay for the cost of school bus safety belt systems; and any remaining expenditures must 23 24 be used for the school bus replacement incentives under RCW 28A.160.205. Beginning August 1, 2024, expenditures from the account 25 may only be used for school bus incentives under RCW 28A.160.205. 26

27 Sec. 7. RCW 43.84.092 and 2018 c 287 s 7, 2018 c 275 s 10, and 28 2018 c 203 s 14 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) All earnings of investments of surplus balances in the state
 treasury shall be deposited to the treasury income account, which
 account is hereby established in the state treasury.

32 (2) The treasury income account shall be utilized to pay or 33 receive funds associated with federal programs as required by the 34 federal cash management improvement act of 1990. The treasury income 35 account is subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no 36 appropriation is required for refunds or allocations of interest 37 earnings required by the cash management improvement act. Refunds of 38 interest to the federal treasury required under the cash management 1 improvement act fall under RCW 43.88.180 and shall not require appropriation. The office of financial management shall determine the 2 amounts due to or from the federal government pursuant to the cash 3 management improvement act. The office of financial management may 4 direct transfers of funds between accounts as deemed necessary to 5 6 implement the provisions of the cash management improvement act, and this subsection. Refunds or allocations shall occur prior to the 7 distributions of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this 8 section. 9

10 (3) Except for the provisions of RCW 43.84.160, the treasury 11 income account may be utilized for the payment of purchased banking 12 services on behalf of treasury funds including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and disbursement functions for the state 13 treasury and affected state agencies. The treasury income account is 14 15 subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is 16 required for payments to financial institutions. Payments shall occur 17 prior to distribution of earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section. 18

19 (4) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the earnings 20 credited to the treasury income account. The state treasurer shall 21 credit the general fund with all the earnings credited to the 22 treasury income account except:

23 The following accounts and funds shall receive their (a) proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's and fund's 24 25 average daily balance for the period: The abandoned recreational vehicle disposal account, the aeronautics account, the aircraft 26 27 search and rescue account, the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement 28 project account, the brownfield redevelopment trust fund account, the budget stabilization account, the capital vessel replacement account, 29 the capitol building construction account, the Cedar River channel 30 31 construction and operation account, the Central Washington University 32 capital projects account, the charitable, educational, penal and reformatory institutions account, the Chehalis basin account, the 33 cleanup settlement account, the Columbia river basin water supply 34 development account, the Columbia river basin taxable bond water 35 supply development account, the Columbia river basin water supply 36 37 revenue recovery account, the common school construction fund, the community forest trust account, the connecting Washington account, 38 39 the county arterial preservation account, the county criminal justice 40 assistance account, the deferred compensation administrative account,

1 the deferred compensation principal account, the department of licensing services account, the department of licensing tuition 2 recovery trust fund, the department of retirement systems expense 3 account, the developmental disabilities community trust account, the 4 diesel idle reduction account, the drinking water assistance account, 5 6 the drinking water assistance administrative account, the early learning facilities development account, the 7 early learning facilities revolving account, the Eastern Washington University 8 capital projects account, the Interstate 405 express toll lanes 9 operations account, the education construction fund, the education 10 legacy trust account, the election account, the electric vehicle 11 charging infrastructure account, the energy freedom account, the 12 energy recovery act account, the essential rail assistance account, 13 The Evergreen State College capital projects account, the federal 14 forest revolving account, the ferry bond retirement fund, the freight 15 16 mobility investment account, the freight mobility multimodal account, 17 the grade crossing protective fund, the public health services account, the high capacity transportation account, the state higher 18 19 education construction account, the higher education construction account, the highway bond retirement fund, the highway infrastructure 20 account, the highway safety fund, the high occupancy toll lanes 21 operations account, the hospital safety net assessment fund, the 22 23 industrial insurance premium refund account, the judges' retirement account, the judicial retirement administrative account, the judicial 24 25 retirement principal account, the local leasehold excise tax account, the local real estate excise tax account, the local sales and use tax 26 account, the marine resources stewardship trust account, the medical 27 28 aid account, the mobile home park relocation fund, the money-purchase 29 retirement savings administrative account, the money-purchase retirement savings principal account, the motor vehicle fund, the 30 motorcycle safety education account, the multimodal transportation 31 32 account, the multiuse roadway safety account, the municipal criminal justice assistance account, the natural resources deposit account, 33 the oyster reserve land account, the pension funding stabilization 34 account, the perpetual surveillance and maintenance account, the 35 pollution liability insurance agency underground storage tank 36 revolving account, the public employees' retirement system plan 1 37 account, the public employees' retirement system combined plan 2 and 38 39 plan 3 account, the public facilities construction loan revolving 40 account beginning July 1, 2004, the public health supplemental

account, the public works assistance account, the Puget Sound capital 1 construction account, the Puget Sound ferry operations account, the 2 3 Puget Sound taxpayer accountability account, the real estate appraiser commission account, the recreational vehicle account, the 4 regional mobility grant program account, the resource management cost 5 6 account, the rural arterial trust account, the rural mobility grant 7 program account, the rural Washington loan fund, the school bus safety account, the sexual assault prevention and response account, 8 the site closure account, the skilled nursing facility safety net 9 trust fund, the small city pavement and sidewalk account, the special 10 11 category C account, the special wildlife account, the state 12 employees' insurance account, the state employees' insurance reserve account, the state investment board expense account, the state 13 investment board commingled trust fund accounts, the state patrol 14 highway account, the state route number 520 civil penalties account, 15 16 the state route number 520 corridor account, the state wildlife 17 account, the statewide tourism marketing account, the student 18 achievement council tuition recovery trust fund, the supplemental pension account, the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account, the 19 teachers' retirement system plan 1 account, the teachers' retirement 20 system combined plan 2 and plan 3 account, the tobacco prevention and 21 22 control account, the tobacco settlement account, the toll facility 23 bond retirement account, the transportation 2003 account (nickel 24 account), the transportation equipment fund, the transportation 25 future funding program account, the transportation improvement 26 account, the transportation improvement board bond retirement account, the transportation infrastructure account, the 27 28 transportation partnership account, the traumatic brain injury 29 account, the tuition recovery trust fund, the University of Washington bond retirement fund, the University of Washington 30 31 building account, the volunteer firefighters' and reserve officers' 32 relief and pension principal fund, the volunteer firefighters' and 33 reserve officers' administrative fund, the Washington judicial retirement system account, the Washington law enforcement officers' 34 and firefighters' system plan 1 retirement account, the Washington 35 law enforcement officers' and firefighters' system plan 2 retirement 36 account, the Washington public safety employees' plan 2 retirement 37 38 account, the Washington school employees' retirement system combined 39 plan 2 and 3 account, the Washington state health insurance pool 40 account, the Washington state patrol retirement account, the

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1 Washington State University building account, the Washington State 2 University bond retirement fund, the water pollution control revolving administration account, the water pollution control 3 revolving fund, the Western Washington University capital projects 4 account, the Yakima integrated plan implementation account, the 5 6 Yakima integrated plan implementation revenue recovery account, and the Yakima integrated plan implementation taxable bond account. 7 Earnings derived from investing balances of the agricultural 8 permanent fund, the normal school permanent fund, the permanent 9 common school fund, the scientific permanent fund, the state 10 university permanent fund, and the state reclamation revolving 11 12 account shall be allocated to their respective beneficiary accounts.

(b) Any state agency that has independent authority over accounts or funds not statutorily required to be held in the state treasury that deposits funds into a fund or account in the state treasury pursuant to an agreement with the office of the state treasurer shall receive its proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance for the period.

(5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state
Constitution, no treasury accounts or funds shall be allocated
earnings without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

22 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 8. This act takes effect August 1, 2019.

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